

Message Text

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12

ACTION EA-09

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FM AMEMBASSY BANGKOK

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3899

CINCPAC HONO

C O N F I D E N T I A L BANGKOK 23419

FOL TEL FROM SONGKHLA DATED 6 NOV SENT ACTION BANGKOK
REPEATED FOR UR INFO

QUOTE

C O N F I D E N T I A L SONGKHLA 200

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PINS TH MY

SUBJ: SURRENDERED BANDIT SCORECARD

1. INTERIOR MINISTRY POLICY OF ACCEPTING SURRENDER SOUTHERN
BANDITS HAVING MIXED RESULTS. MANY GO ON WITH OLD WAYS,
CRIME IS INCREASING. AT SAME TIME, RTG GETTING SOME INTERESTING
MILEAGE.

2. PAW SU IS ADMINISTERING RESETTLEMENT OF BANDITS AND
REPORTEDLY PROVIDING INTEL FOR RTG ON OTHERS STILL AT LARGE.
HE HAS SPOKEN OUT ON CAMPUS (SONGKHLA 136) CALLING ON
MUSLIMS TO FOLLOW RTG INTEGRATION POLICIES. NOW HE APPEARS
IN PRESS ACCUSING GOM OF SUPPORTING THAI MUSLIM SEPARATISTS
AND CONDEMNING STRIKING THAI TEACHERS. HIS TOEING RTG LINE
SO WELL THESE DAYS MAY BE INDICATION HE HAS REFORMED, OR
COULD BE THAT HIS HISTORY OF SHADOWY CONTACTS WITH CURRENT
AND PREVIOUS REGIMES HAVE KEPT HIM ON SOME TYPE OF RETAINER.
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3. SUA KHIN, "ROBIN HOODLUM" OF PHANG NGA, CONTINUES
RUN PROTECTION RACKET FOR ILLEGAL MINERS AND REPORTEDLY INVOLVED
IN ILLEGAL SMUGGLING OF ORE TO PENANG. ONE OF HIS THUGS
DROPPED GRENADE DURING DEMONSTRATION LAST MONTH WHICH KILLED
16 PEOPLE (SONGKHLA 184).

4. SENG LOOKMAIPHAI, ONE OF MOST FEARED GUNS DOWN HERE,
NOW WORKS AS BILL COLLECTOR FOR PATTANI FIRM WHICH SELLS
AUTOS AND MOTORCYCLES ON TIME. PRESUMABLY, WHEN A CUSTOMER
SEEMS AS IF HE ABOUT TO MISS A MONTHLY PAYMENT, SENG MAKES
THE MAN AN OFFER HE CANNOT REFUSE.

5. SEVERAL SURRENDERED LEADERS HAVE BEEN ABLE TO KEEP
WEAPONS. BEST GUESS IS THAT WHEN BANDITS COME IN, THEY
CACHE HALF THEIR WEAPONS IN JUNGLE IN CASE THEY HAVE TO
RETURN. THIS UNDERSTANDABLE, SINCE RTG POLICY OF PAST
DECADES HAS BEEN SWING FROM SUPPRESSION TO AMNESTY AND BACK
AGAIN, SO BANDITS NEVER SURE WHAT TOMORROW OR NEW REGIME
IN BANGKOK WILL BRING. CASTRODALE
UNQUOTE
WHITEHOUSE

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